Development Aid From Germany

5289. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has decided to reduce its development aid to India during 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total aid provided by Germany during 1990-91; and

(d) the extent to which it will be reduced in 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No such decision has been conveyed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). It is understood that there may be an overall reduction in FRG Budget for bilateral assistance. However, the extent of its effect in assistance to individual countries is not known.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Germany had committed DM 425 million in Financial Cooperation Funds in April 1990. German commitments are made for their financial year which is January to December.

(d) Does not arise.

LIC's Scheme to Earn Foreign Exchange

5290. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched an offshore fund scheme to earn foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). LIC of India has decided to launch an offshore fund in collaboration with Touche Remnant, U.K. providing for incorporation in the Netherlands of a close ended investment company. The broad features are that the international investors will be invited to subscribe for the shares in this Fund. Bulk of the net proceeds of the issue of shares will be invested in units of a Mutual Fund to be set up by LIC in India exclusively for this purpose.

Financial Assistance to Kerala by Financial Institutions/Banks

5291. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of financial assistance given by public sector financial institutions like Life Insurance Corporation of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development to Kerala during 1991-92;

(b) whether the above amount is proportionately very low as compared to other States; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The total amount of financial assistance to be provided by the Public Sector Financial Institutions like Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), In-